-

\_

IOPPOSE H.B. No. 5397 "AN ACT DECLARING GUN VIOLENCE A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS AND ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION"

This is yet another attempt to enact an underhanded approach to gun control ... all advocated by groups of anti-gun oppositionists who what to strip law abiding citizens of our Constitutional 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment protections.

While this may sound well intentioned "provide grants to organizations to conduct evidence-informed, community-based initiatives for gun violence prevention and intervention and mental health aftercare for gun violence survivors" these monies will undoubtedly go to groups who oppose our Federally protected 2<sup>nd</sup>

Amendment. Again, this bill seeks to give money to those groups who oppose incarceration as a deterrent for crimes of violence committed by weapons most of which are illegally owned in large cities.

I can see where this is headed ... in the direction of gun registration, more gun restrictions and eventual confiscation of legally owned firearms by legally licensed owners.

I oppose and will continue to oppose any further legislation like this that freely give money to groups in opposition to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment of our Constitution especially while those politicians supposedly in charge have been historically lax on crime, lax on punishment and lax on incarceration for criminals who are convicted of weapon crimes that are already on the books. Now that they have been so lax on crime these politicians are using that as an excuse to push more committees, more rules, more funding to anti-2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment causes and whatnot to achieve their own anigun ambitions of abolishing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment.

Mr. John Gurchin

11 Harris Road

**Avon Connecticut**